A. Smooth

Ms. Nordmeyer,

As a separate inquiry I do not understand the PTO's position in this Office Action. I waited 18 months before the PTO's first response to my application, I answered that in the required 3 months and the very next response is a FINAL ACTION. Is the PTO all about process and efficiency... 18months ??? or about patent solutions to industries needs. This is aside from my formal office response above, but it certainly is a question that comes to mind, when an applicant like myself is looking toward the PTO to help me acquire patent protection for an invention.

Thank you for your efforts on my behalf, is it possible that this response and my response in November be submitted to the Assistant Director of Patents, so that in forming new and better process for the PTO that they might consider an applicants point of view?

Once again thank you, and if you have any questions about my response please call me at 802-775-5242.

Thomas L. Russo

Application Control Number 09/911,949

Homer Chin

Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: Patricia L. Nordmeyer

Below are the marked up claims to help improve the clarity of the invention requested by the examiner.

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 1. An impact- resistant valve less inflatable reusable two zoned void fill packing pad for protecting articles during shipping from shock and damage, said packing pad made of a first and second outer film layers, said first and second film layers being secured together along an outer perimeter thereof to define a entry/exit portal tube passageway to permit repeated packing pad use and the inner volume within said pad and, said first and said second film layers within said inner volume in a location selected to form two separate zones within said inner pad volume, and each said zone made up of inflatable chambers, wherein said chambers are conical shaped providing a high volume profile with added zoned impact security.
- 2. The system of claim 1, wherein each said zone is comprised of a plurality of inflatable valve less conical shaped chambers configured to redistribute an inflation gas contained therein from one or more conical shaped chambers compressed by and external impact to at least one contiguous conical shaped chamber which is not impacted.
- 3. The system of claim 2, wherein said conical shaped chambers maximize pad height for impact protection, said pad height respective of available chamber height, determined by base width of conical chambers provided.

4. An impact- resistant valve less inflatable reusable four zoned void fill packing pad for protecting articles during shipping from shock and damage, said packing pad made of a first and second outer film layers with a complete central film layer, said first and second film layers being secured to the central film layer along an outer perimeter thereof to define a entry/exit portal tube passageway to permit repeated packing pad use and the inner volume within said pad and, said first and said second film layers within said inner volume in a location selected to form four separate zones within said inner pad volume, and each said zone made up of inflatable chambers, wherein said chambers are conical shaped providing a high volume profile with added zoned impact security.

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The following is a clean revision of the claims I would like the examiner to consider for my invention.